



HF Happenings



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

August

3 and 4 - Hamnet Winter Challenge
4 - SARL HF Phone Contest (CQ ZS Contest)
8 - Eid-UL-Fitr
9 - National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint
9 and 10 - Hermanus Wine and Food festival; Schreiner Karoo Writers festival, Cradock; Robertson Slow
16 to 18 - National Watersports Show and Dive Expo, Randburg
17 - RTA in Durban
18 - SARL HF Digital Contest
17 and 18 - International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
23 to 25 - Tokyo Ham Fair
25 - SARL HF CW Contest
29 to 31 - Boertjie Kontreifes, Bultfontein
30 and 31 - Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia
29 Aug to 8 Sep - Clanwilliam Wildflower Show

September

4 - Secretary's Day
5 and 6 - Rosh Hashanah
6 - Casual Day
7 and 8 - IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day; RSGB SSB Field Day
12 - Closing date for October RAE
14 - Yom Kippur
20 - Schools close
21 and 22 - SARL VHF/UHF Contest
22 - Spring Equinox

Have **YOU** done anything today to Promote Amateur Radio?

Issue: 567

August 2013

SARL YL Sprint

This is a fun activity to celebrate Women's Day between radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call "YL Sprint." The Sprint is on the air from 09:00 to 10:00 UTC on Friday 9 August. The exchange is a RS report and YL or OM.

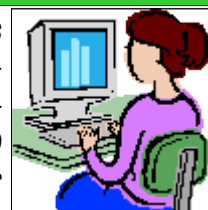
It is a phone sprint on the 40 metre band (7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz). Contacts between YL stations are worth 5 points, contacts between YL and OM stations are worth 3 points and contacts between OM stations are worth 1 point.

Log sheets and summaries shall be submitted within 7 days after the contest by e-mail to zs4bfm@netactive.co.za. The closing date for log submissions is 17 August 2013.



CQ ZS = SARL HF Digital Contest

The aim of the SARL HF Digital, Contest is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands. The Phone contest takes place on Sunday 18 August and runs from 13:00 to 16:30 UTC. This contest is NOT run using the runs for the SARL Digital Contest.



Participation can be as Single Operator Single Band, Single Operator All Band, Multi Operator Single Band or Multi Operator All Band. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete.

Frequencies - 3 580 to 3 600 kHz; 7 040 to 7 060 kHz and 14 070 to 14 099 kHz

The exchange is a RST report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. *General Rule 5.d - For contests requiring serial numbers, a single consecutive numbering sequence starting with 001, shall be used for all contacts. However, a multi-operator station transmitting on several bands simultaneously may at their discretion use separate number sequences for each band.*

RTTY/PSK31 contacts count 1 point. Two points are earned for each area worked per band and a further two points for each station worked on all three bands. Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape; Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape; Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape; Area 4: ZS4 Free State; Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal; Area 6: ZS6 North West, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and Gauteng; Area 7: 3B8 Mauritius, 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, 7Q Malawi, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, 5R Madagascar, FR Reunion Is-

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Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at www.sotawatch.org

And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk



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land and FH Mayotte and Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, D2 Angola, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica and ZS8 Marion Island. Contacts with stations outside these areas are allowed, QSO points may be claimed but no zone or three-bander points may be claimed.

The ZS4BS Trophy is awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual HF Digital Contest and the SARL Trophy is awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual HF Digital Contest. Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score.

Logs must be submitted by 26 August for the Digital contest and sent to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za.

DXCC News

The following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

4S7NZG - Sri Lanka, 2013 operation;

6OOLA - Somalia, 2013 operation;

9M4SLL - Spratly Islands, 2012 and 2013 operations;

9Q6CC - Democratic People's Republic of the Congo, 2010 and 2011 operation;

9X0EME - Rwanda, 2013 operation;

T6JM - Afghanistan, 2012 operation;

XW0YJY - Laos, 2013 operation;

XW4XR - Laos, current operation; and

Z80ID - South Sudan, special 1-Day operation for Independence day celebration on 9 July 2013.

If you've had any of these rejected in a prior application, send a note to bmoore@arrl.org to be placed on the list for an update to your record.

Thank you Tjerk, ZS6P.



Tanzania, 5H. Byron, KF8UN, is active as 5H3BB from now until 20 August. He will be there on a safari with his YL Sandy, K8FUN. Activity is possible on 40 - 15 metres, but mostly 20 metres and on SSB with some CW. He will use an IC-706 into a mag mount vertical and/or dipole. QSL via his home call sign direct.

Namibia, V5. Winfried, DK9IP, will once again be active as V55V from V52W's QTH in Omaruru this time for the Worked All Europe DX CW Contest [WAE], 10 and 11 August as a Single-Op/High-Power entry. QSL via DJ8VC. Before and after the contest, he will sign V5/DK9IP. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres, possibly some RTTY and 6m. QSL for V5/DK9IP via his home callsign. Winfried is expected to be there between 8 and 13 August.

Morocco, 5CO. The "Council of Europe Radio Amateur Club" (CERAC - TP2CE) in partnership with the "Association royale des Radio Amateur du Maroc" (ARRAM) will be active as 5COCE from 23:00 UTC 19 August. Activity is to commemorate the Revolution, the King and the People, (20 August) and Youth Celebration's Day (21 August). Operations are usually on all HF bands and modes, and possibly the satellites. QSL via F5LGF. An online log search will be available at <http://ewwa.free.fr>. The ARRAM Web site is at <http://www.rram.org>. QSL cards will be printed beginning September.



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Swaziland, 3DA0. Roger, ZS6RJ and a Multi-Inter-national team of operators will be active as 3DA0ET from Piggs Peak, Swaziland, between 18 and 27 November. Some of the operators also took part in the 2012 7P8D DXpedition. According to Frosty, K5LBU, the 3DA0ET team is still looking for operators, especially some RTTY operators. Currently, operators mentioned are Emil, DL8JJ, Frosty, K5LBU, Neil, VA7DX, Keith, VE7MID, Sam, ZS6BRZ, and Roger, ZS6RJ. If you are interested in be an operator, contact Roger, ZS6RJ at roger.jones@vodamail.com and/or Frosty, K5LBU at 3da0cf@gmail.com

They plan to have four stations on the air, covering all the HF bands (160 - 10 metres) and 6 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. There will be a focus on RTTY and they plan to have a dedicated full-time RTTY station on the air from start to finish. Roger, ZS6RJ, informs, "We're also running an up-front survey (link on the home page) asking DXers what bands/modes etc., they need the most for Swaziland. We are going to use the information we get as a tool to focus our areas of concentration in our operating schedule once we're there and try to hit the 'most wanted' band slots per continent."

Activity will also include the CQ WW DX CW Contest (23 and 24 November) as a Multi-two entry. Dick, N7RO, will be the QSL Manager for 3DA0ET. Tony, LZ1JZ, will be printing and supplying the QSL cards. QSOs will be uploading daily to LoTW and ClubLog. They will not be using eQSL. More specific details about direct and Bureau QSLs will follow in due course, closer toward the end of the DXpedition. Watch the 3DA0ET Web page for updates at <http://www.swazidx.org>

African Islands

Canary Islands, EA8. Bob, DL7VOA, is active as EA8/home call between now and 17 August. Activity will be holiday style, CW and mainly during his evening night. QSL via DL7VOA, direct or by the Bureau.

Andrew, G7COD, will be active as EA8/home call from Gran Canaria (AF-004, DIE S-005, WLOTA L 0969) between 9 and 31 August. Activity will be on 30 - 6 metres using CW and SSB. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau or eQSL and LoTW.

Members of the Grupo DX Gran Canaria and URE Las Palmas will be active as AO8LH from Puna de la Aldea Lighthouse (DME: 35020, DIE: S-005, FEA: D2814.7, CAI: 032, EAFF-078) during the ILLW, 17 and 18 August. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. The ARLHS number is currently unassigned. QSL via EA8AKN and LoTW.

Rodriguez Island, 3B9. After the success of the J52EME DXpedition by the Verona DX Team, the team is pleased to announce the activation Rodriguez Island (AF-017), for EME activity on 144 and 432 MHz as well as HF operations between 1 and 9 September. The team is currently awaiting approval of the call sign 3B9EME. Operators mentioned are Walter, I3VJW (CW and Digital), Luc, I3LDP (SSB), Rony, IZ3KIF and Alessandro, IK5MIC (SSB and Digital). They will have 2 stations on at the same time on the HF bands, with an emphasis on 160, 80, 40, 30, 17 and 12 metres, using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT65hf and PSK31. Suggested frequencies are CW - 1 825, 3 520, 7 020, 10 105, 14 020, 18 075, 21 020, 24 895 and 28 020 kHz; SSB - 1 835, 3 780, 7 065, 7 160, 14 150, 18 150, 21 300, 24 945 and 28 430 kHz and RTTY - 3 580, 7 050, 10 140, 14 080, 18 100, 21 080, 24 920 and 28 080 kHz. 6 m - SKEDs. For more details, visit the 3B9EME Web site at www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/3b9_2013.htm

Amsterdam 2014. Since their last Press Release in early May, the FT5ZM DXpedition team has made significant progress. They have begun receiving supplies and equipment at their Atlanta staging area, the networking framework for the two station sites has been com-

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pleted, as well as the plans for several low band receiving systems ("we will be hearing and being heard very well from FT5ZM on the low bands"), and the "on island" procedures are progressing well. As for fundraising, "at this time we are about 2/3 of the way to our goal. Taking into account what we expect from direct QSL requests and OQRS, we are about \$75,000 short. This is of some concern." More information on the DXpedition budget can be found at <http://www.amsterdamdxdx.org/why-does-this-dxpedition-cost-so-much/>

Lighthouse in the *middle* of Australia

Known as a very big island nation, at the geographic centre of Australia and 1 500 kilometres from the coast is Alice Springs, which hosts the famous Henley-On-Todd Regatta each August - albeit on a usually dry river bed.

The Northern Territorians and many visitors take the annual iconic event very seriously with up to 3,000 witnessing the regatta, which began in 1962.

There is an interesting story of how this location, in one of the driest parts of Australia, deserves a registration this year in the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend.

Greg Mair, VK8GM, explains that with the help of the Henley-On-Todd team; a lighthouse has been built to promote the spirit of amateur radio and lighthouses.

The Alice Springs lighthouse joining nearly 500 others around the world this year and is certain to attract the attention of local, national and international news media.

Australia on 62 and Germany 61 remain the leaders, followed by the USA (46), England (34), Argentina (24), Malaysia, Sweden and Netherlands (15), Scotland and South Africa (14), Canada (13) and Ireland (10).

Organisers expect many more registrations in the annual fun event that publicises both the old sea-going navigation methods and portable amateur radio.

If you want to register a lighthouse, lightship or marine beacon in this year's event on 17 and 18 August then visit the website www.illw.net

The End of an Era

Roger, G3SXW, sent out the following press release on 29 July [edited]: "The Voodoo Contest Group has taken part in CQ World-Wide CW Contest from West Africa each November for the past 19 years, operating in ten different countries. We have won the Multi-Operator contest six times. Thirty different operators have participated over the years, travelling from UK and USA.

In 2004 we published a book: 'Contesting in Africa: Multi-Multi on the Equator' describing the first ten years. It is now time to update the story. The timing of this is important because we have now come to the End of an Era, so to speak: we will no longer return to West Africa to take our large stock-pile of equipment out of storage for the 20th time. It has been donated to the Liberian Amateur Radio Association.

The modern form of 'book' is a web site - so we have developed one. The group offers a huge vote of thanks to John Warburton, G4IRN, for investing so much skill, time and energy into this project. The site comprises offerings from many of the Contest group and tells, hopefully in detail but also in an entertaining way, the story of these past 19 years. All the facts and figures are there but more importantly also the experiences: those long bus-journeys between countries and the fascinating sights along the way, visiting African villages, and every amateur radio aspect from managing pile-ups, to maintaining deterior-

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rating amplifiers, to negotiating transmitting licences and much, much more, embellished with many video clips. The group has certainly learned a lot about life in West Africa and thoroughly enjoyed every minute, every challenge.

Visit <http://voodoocontestgroup.com> to join us on those amazing journeys, laugh with us, take part in our celebration of two decades, almost two sunspot cycles, of Contest DXpeditioning. Enquiries: Roger Western, G3SXW g3sxw@btinternet.com, John Warburton, G4IRN G4IRN@dxdx.co.uk

Contest Calendar

ARS Spartan Sprint

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 6 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Skinny; Tubby

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

Submit logs by: 8 August 2013

E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.arsqrp.blogspot.com/>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 9 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 10 August 2013

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:30 - 02:00 UTC 9 August

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 11 August 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 9 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 11 August 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

WAE DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 10 August to 23:59 UTC 11 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - high or low; Multi-Op; SWL

Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours, off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op:

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This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 29 July to 5 August 2013



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48 hours

Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 26 August 2013

E-mail logs to: waecw@dxhf.darc.de

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules/>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

12:00 UTC 10 August to 24:00 UTC 11 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and SKCC no or "NONE"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 18 August 2013

Post log summary at: <http://wes.m0trn.com/submission.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

Maryland-DC QSO Party

16:00 UTC 10 August to 04:00 UTC 11 August and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 11 August

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2, 432

Classes: Standard; Mobile; Club; QRP

Exchange: MDC: entry class and county; non-MDC: entry class and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with club station; 5 points per QSO with mobile station; 4 points per QSO with QRP station; 3 points per QSO with CW/digital station; 1 point per QSO for all other stations; Bonus:

50 points for at least one QSO with W3VPR

Multipliers: MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only; MDC: Each state (other than MD), VE province and country once only; non-MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 10 September 2013

E-mail logs to: MDQSOP@w3vpr.org

Mail logs to: MDC QSO Party, PO Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035, USA

Find rules at:

<http://mdqsoparty.w3vpr.org/Documents/MarylandQSOPartyRules2013.pdf>

Next Week's Contest

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 14 August

CWops Mini-CWT Test 13:00 - 14:00 UTC; 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 15 August

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 August

QRP Fox Hunt 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 16 August

NCCC Sprint Ladder 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 August

North American QSO Party, SSB 18:00 UTC 17 August to 05:59 UTC 18 August

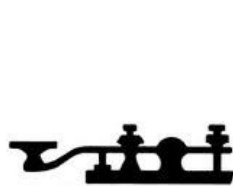
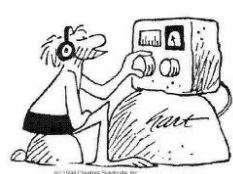
Feld Hell Sprint 20:00 - 22:00 UTC 17 August

SARL HF Digital Contest 13:00 - 16:30 UTC 18 August

ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 18 August

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 August

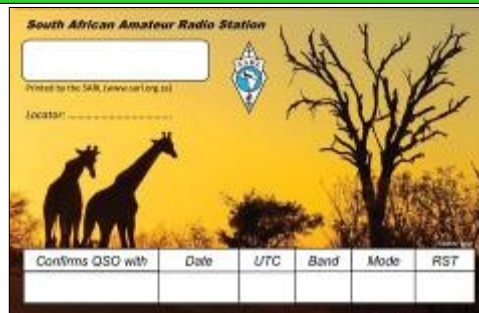
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 18:00 - 20:00 UTC 19 August



SARL Member QSL Cards

The South African Radio League has produced a generic QSL card which you can personalise by writing in your own call sign. The cards are available in batches of 100 at R50 per batch, postage included.

To order, pay the amount for the required number of QSL cards into the SARL bank account - ABSA account no 407 158 8849, branch code 632 005. Then send details of your delivery address and the proof of payment to Willem, ZS6WWJ at zs6wwj@gmail.com and wait at your post-box for delivery!



New antenna for 20-17-15 m

SOTabeams, the portable radio specialists, has introduced a new antenna for the popular DX bands of 20, 17 and 15 m.

More than just an antenna, the High Hopper is a complete system that provides its own guying for a lightweight mast! The antenna is supplied on Wire Winders for fast and reliable deployment in the field.

It is available for a short period of time at an introductory price of £32.50.

<http://www.sotabeams.co.uk/high-hopper-iii-for-20-17-15m/>

Countdown to a record ILLW

Next Saturday and Sunday, 17 and 18 August, is when there will be an expected record number of amateur radio stations calling CQ for the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend. Venturing out with their portable equipment and antennas are many hundreds of radio amateurs who truly enjoy their time during this fun-filled event, and achieve thousands of contacts.

Now in its 16th year, it helps to increase the public awareness of the old maritime navigation structures that need to be conserved, spreads good will and promotes amateur radio. It all started in 1998 having only 158 registered, but has grown steadily in popularity to reach 473 last year and with 455 already a week out, this event is headed to another record this year. Some are on air either Saturday or Sunday, while others use both days, with Europe, Africa, Asia, Russia, Oceania or the Americas on the list.

The radio amateurs involved are ready to explain the history of their location and many offer a special QSL card. The activity of amateur radio and how to join it are also explained whenever visitors arrive.

Check out all of the registrations and guidelines which appear on the website www.illw.net or why not choose to go portable yourself by activating a lighthouse, lightship or marine beacon.

History This Week for the week starting 5 August

- 1181 - Supernova observed by Chinese & Japanese astronomers
- 1709 - First known ascent in hot-air balloon, Bartolomeu de Gusmao (indoors)
- 1774 - Priestly discovers oxygen
- 1829 - "Stourbridge Lion" locomotive goes into service, England.
- 1831 - First US steam engine train run (Albany to Schenectady, NY)
- 1909 - SOS First used by American ship, Arapahoe, off Cape Hatteras, NC
- 1919 - First air flight over a major body of water in Australia (Harry Butler)
- 1945 - Atom Bomb dropped on Hiroshima (6 Aug in Japan)
- 1959 - Explorer 6 transmits first TV photo of Earth from space

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News

